

A NEW JAPANESE ACROLEPIID (LEPIDOPTERA)

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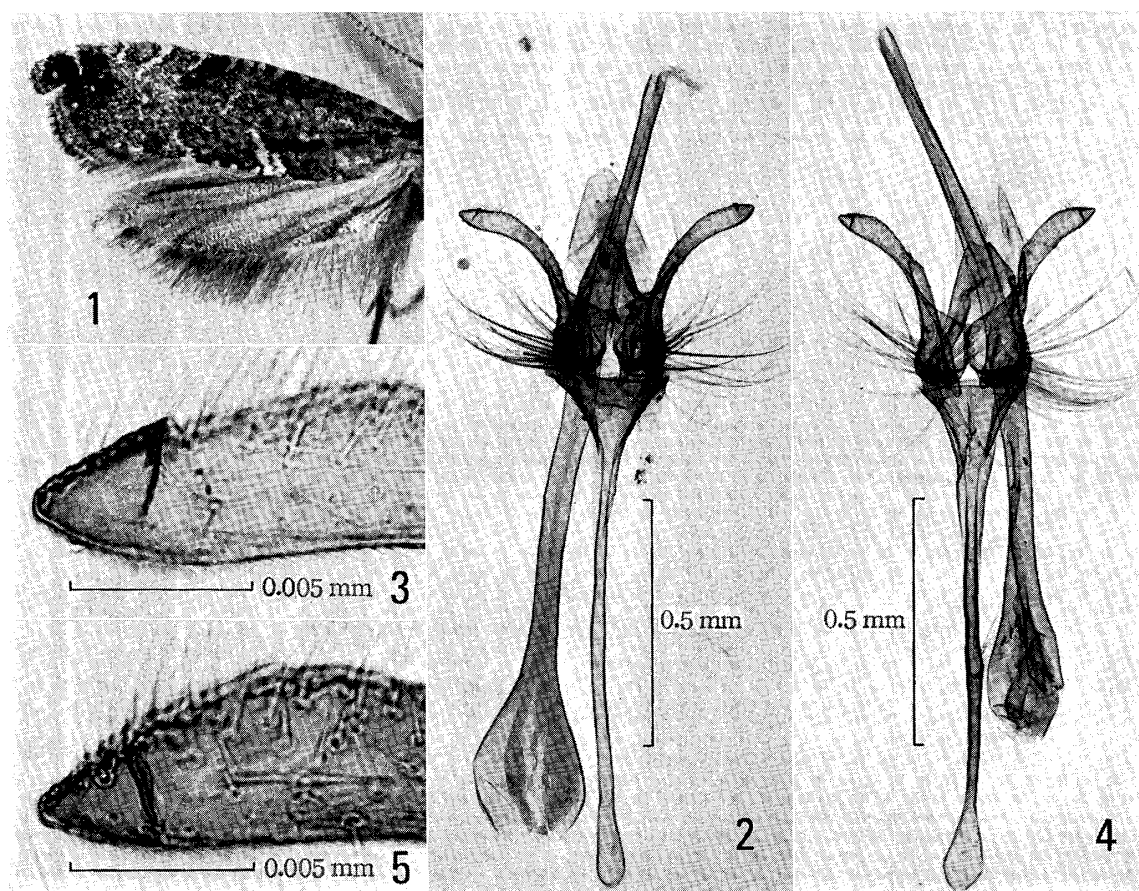
Acrolepiopsis persimilis n. sp. (Figs. 1—3, 6, 7)

10—11 mm. Nearest to *A. suzukiella* (Matsumura, 1931), with which it agrees exactly in the external characters. The male genitalia (figs. 2, 3) are extremely similar to those of *suzukiella*, but in the valva of that species the preapical small tooth is more conspicuous, and the distal dilated portion is a little narrower. The female genitalia (figs. 6, 7) differ slightly from those of *suzukiella* by the somewhat smaller pads of lamella postvaginalis.

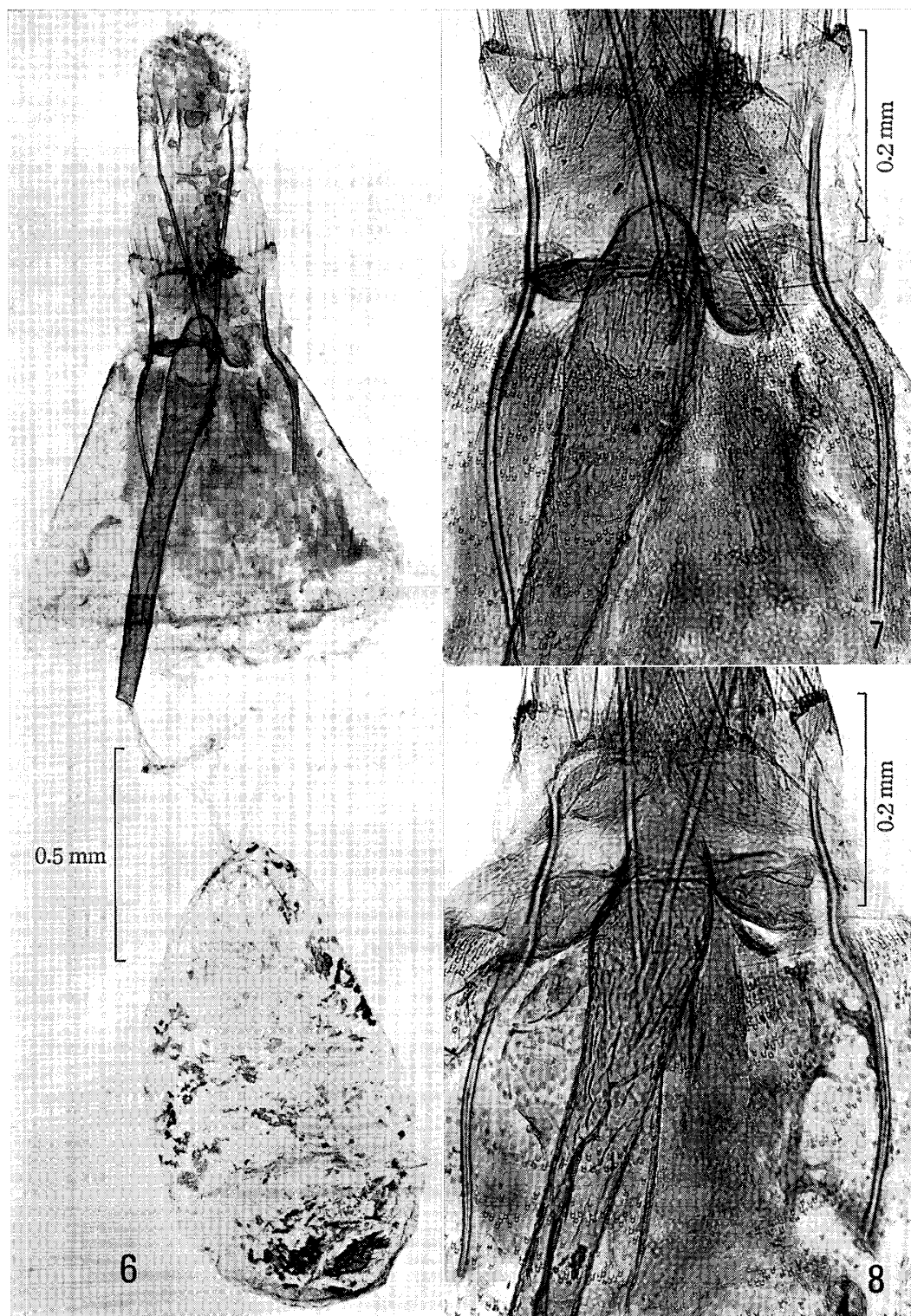
Described from the holotype ♂ and 2 ♀ paratypes (Mt. Takaosan, Tokyo Prefecture, Honsyû, Japan, 1 ♂ and 1 ♀ emerged on 14. VI. 1974 and 1 ♀ on 16. VI. 1974 (M. Nakamura), all reared from larvae taken on 2. VI. 1974), in the collection of Entom. Lab., Univ. of Osaka Prefecture.

This new species, as noted above, is indistinguishable from *suzukiella* by the use of superficial characters, but the difference in host plants will serve to distinguish them. According to Mr. Nakamura (personal communication), the larvae of *persimilis* were found feeding on the leaves of *Achyranthes japonica* (Miquel) Nakai (Amaranthaceae). *A. suzukiella* is known as a common pest of yams of several species (Dioscoreaceae) in Japan. I have compared the cocoon of *persimilis* with that of *suzukiella*. They resemble each other in form., but differ in colour; nearly black in *persimilis* and light brown in *suzukiella*.

In conclusion, I am heartily grateful to Mr. Masanao Nakamura for material.



Figs. 1—5. *Acrolepiopsis* spp.: (1) *A. persimilis* n. sp., ♀, left wings; (2) do., ♂ genitalia; (3) do., distal part of valva; (4) *A. suzukiella* (Matsumura), ♂ genitalia; (5) do., distal part of valva.



Figs. 6—8. *Acrolepiopsis* spp., ♀ genitalia: (6) *A. persimilis* n. sp.; (7) do., part, enlarged; (8) *A. suzukiella* (Matsumura), part, enlarged.